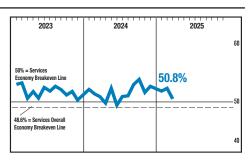
Analysis by

Steve Miller, CPSM, CSCP

Chair of the Institute for Supply Management® Services Business Survey Committee

PMI at 50.8%

In March, the Services PMI® registered 50.8 percent, a 2.7-percentage point decrease compared to the February reading of 53.5 percent. A reading above 50 percent indicates the services sector economy is generally expanding; below 50 percent indicates it is generally contracting. A Services PMI® above 48.6 percent, over time, generally indicates an expansion of the overall economy. Therefore,



the March Services PMI[®] indicates the overall economy is expanding for the 58th straight month.

Services at a Glance

INDEX	Mar Index	Feb Index	% Point Change	Direction	Rate of Change	Trend* (months)
Services PMI®	50.8	53.5	- 2.7	Growing	Slower	9
Business Activity	55.9	54.4	+ 1.5	Growing	Faster	58
New Orders	50.4	52.2	- 1.8	Growing	Slower	9
Employment	46.2	53.9	- 7.7	Contracting	From Growing	1
Supplier Deliveries	50.6	53.4	- 2.8	Slowing	Slower	4
Inventories	50.3	50.6	- 0.3	Growing	Slower	2
Prices	60.9	62.6	- 1.7	Increasing	Slower	94
Backlog of Orders	47.4	51.7	- 4.3	Contracting	From Growing	1
New Export Orders	45.8	52.1	- 6.3	Contracting	From Growing	1
Imports	52.6	49.6	+ 3.0	Growing	From Contracting	1
Inventory Sentiment	56.6	54.7	+ 1.9	Too High	Faster	23
Overall Economy				Growing	Slower	58
Services Sector				Growing	Slower	9

*Number of months moving in current direction. Services ISM® Report On Business® data has been seasonally adjusted for the Business Activity, New Orders, Employment and Prices indexes.



Commodities Reported

Commodities Up in Price: Aluminum Products (2); Copper Based Products; Dairy; Diesel Fuel* (4); Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Equipment; Labor (52); Lumber (7); Software Maintenance and Support; Steel; and Steel Products (3).

Commodities Down in Price: Diesel Fuel*; Oil and Related Products, and Unleaded Gasoline. Commodities in Short Supply: Eggs (2); and Labor (2).

Economic activity in the services sector expanded for the ninth consecutive month in March, say the nation's purchasing and supply executives in the latest Services ISM® Report On Business®.

The Services PMI® registered 50.8 percent, indicating expansion for the 55th time in 58 months since recovery from the coronavirus pandemic-induced recession began in June 2020. The Business Activity Index registered 55.9 percent in March, 1.5 percentage points higher than the 54.4 percent recorded in February. This is the index's 58th consecutive month of expansion. The New Orders Index recorded a reading of 50.4 percent in March, 1.8 percentage points lower than the February figure of 52.2 percent. The Employment Index dropped into contraction territory for its first time in six months; the reading of 46.2 percent is a 7.7-percentage point decrease compared to the 53.9 percent recorded in February. The Supplier Deliveries Index registered 50.6 percent, 2.8 percentage points lower than the 53.4 percent recorded in February. This is the fourth consecutive month the index has been in expansion territory, indicating slower supplier delivery performance.

The 10 services industries reporting growth in March — listed in order — are: Accommodation & Food Services; Transportation & Warehousing; Finance & Insurance; Wholesale Trade; Public Administration; Utilities; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Construction; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; and Retail Trade. ISM

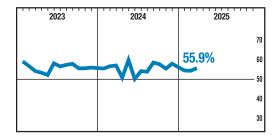
*-Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities; Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services, Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services and Dating Services).



ISM® Report On **Business®**

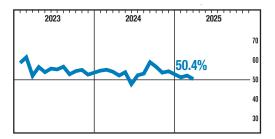
Services PMI®

Analysis by **Steve Miller, CPSM, CSCP,** Chair of the Institute for Supply Management® Services Business Survey Committee



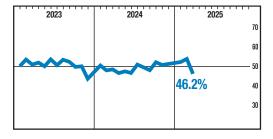
Business Activity

ISM's Business Activity Index registered 55.9 percent. The 12 industries reporting an increase in business activity for the month of March — listed in order — are: Accommodation & Food Services; Transportation & Warehousing; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Finance & Insurance; Wholesale Trade; Retail Trade; Public Administration; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Utilities; Educational Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; and Construction.



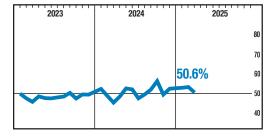
New Orders

ISM's New Orders Index registered 50.4 percent. The nine industries reporting an increase in new orders for the month of March — listed in order — are: Transportation & Warehousing; Wholesale Trade; Utilities; Accommodation & Food Services; Finance & Insurance; Public Administration; Retail Trade; Information; and Health Care & Social Assistance.



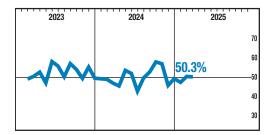
Employment

The Employment Index registered 46.2 percent. The four industries reporting an increase in employment in March are: Construction; Accommodation & Food Services; Public Administration; and Finance & Insurance.



Supplier Deliveries

The Supplier Deliveries Index registered 50.6 percent. The six industries reporting slower deliveries in March — in the following order — are: Management of Companies & Support Services; Wholesale Trade; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Finance & Insurance; Information; and Utilities.



Inventories

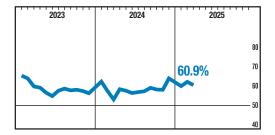
The Inventories Index registered 50.3 percent. The 10 industries reporting an increase in inventories in March — in the following order — are: Accommodation & Food Services; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Public Administration; Information; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Educational Services; Utilities; Retail Trade; Wholesale Trade; and Professional, Scientific & Technical Services.

^{***}Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities; Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services, Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services and Dating Services).

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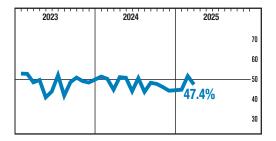
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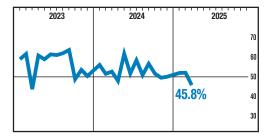
Prices

The Prices Index registered 60.9 percent. Fourteen of the 18 services industries reported an increase in prices paid during the month of March, in the following order: Construction; Accommodation & Food Services; Finance & Insurance; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Information; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Wholesale Trade; Public Administration; Educational Services; Other Services ; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; and Utilities.



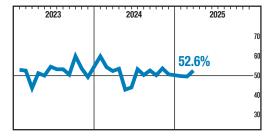
Backlog of Orders

The ISM Services Backlog of Orders Index registered 47.4 percent. The six industries reporting an increase in order backlogs in March — in the following order — are: Finance & Insurance; Transportation & Warehousing; Educational Services; Public Administration; Information; and Utilities.



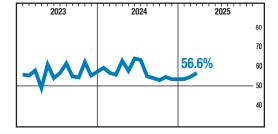
New Export Orders

The New Export Orders Index registered 45.8 percent. The two industries reporting an increase in new export orders in March are: Retail Trade; and Information.



Imports

The Imports Index registered 52.6 percent. The nine industries reporting an increase in imports for the month of March — in the following order — are: Arts, Entertainment & Recreation; Other Services ; Retail Trade; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Educational Services; Utilities; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Information; and Wholesale Trade.



Inventory Sentiment

The ISM Services Inventory Sentiment Index registered 56.6 percent. The 10 industries reporting sentiment that their inventories were too high in March — listed in order — are: Mining; Retail Trade; Utilities; Wholesale Trade; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Construction; Health Care & Social Assistance; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Public Administration; and Information.

^{*****}Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities; Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services, Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services and Dating Services).

About This Report

DO NOT CONFUSE THIS NATIONAL REPORT with the various regional purchasing reports released across the country. The national report's information reflects the entire U.S., while the regional reports contain primarily regional data from their local vicinities. Also, the information in the regional reports is not used in calculating the results of the national report.

The data presented herein is obtained from a survey of manufacturing and services supply executives based on information they have collected within their respective organizations. ISM® makes no representation, other than that stated within this release, regarding the individual company data collection procedures. The data should be compared to all other economic data sources when used in decision-making.

Data and Method of Presentation

The Manufacturing ISM® Report On Business® is based on data compiled from purchasing and supply executives nationwide. The composition of the Manufacturing Business Survey Panel is stratified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and each of the following NAICS-based industries' contribution to gross domestic product (GDP): Food, Beverage & Tobacco Products; Textile Mills; Apparel, Leather & Allied Products; Wood Products; Paper Products; Printing & Related Support Activities; Petroleum & Coal Products: Chemical Products: Plastics & Rubber Products: Nonmetallic Mineral Products: Primary Metals; Fabricated Metal Products; Machinery; Computer & Electronic Products; Electrical Equipment, Appliances & Components; Transportation Equipment; Furniture & Related Products; and Miscellaneous Manufacturing (products such as medical equipment and supplies, jewelry, sporting goods, toys and office supplies). The data are weighted based on each industry's contribution to GDP. According to BEA estimates (the average of the fourth quarter 2023 GDP estimate and the GDP estimates for first, second, and third quarter 2024, as released on December 19, 2024), the six largest manufacturing industries are: Chemical Products; Transportation Equipment; Computer & Electronic Products; Food, Beverage & Tobacco Products; Machinery; and Petroleum & Coal Products.

The Services ISM® Report On Business® (formerly the Non-Manufacturing ISM® Report On Business®) is based on data compiled from purchasing and supply executives nationwide. Membership of the Services Business Survey Panel (formerly Non-Manufacturing Business Survey Panel) is diversified by NAICS, based on each industry's contribution to gross domestic product (GDP). The Services Business Survey Panel responses are divided into the following NAICS code categories; Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting; Mining; Utilities; Construction; Wholesale Trade; Retail Trade; Transportation & Warehousing; Information; Finance & Insurance; Real Estate, Rental & Leasing; Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Management of Companies & Support Services; Educational Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Arts, Entertainment & Recreation: Accommodation & Food Services: Public Administration: and Other Services (services such as Equipment & Machinery Repairing; Promoting or Administering Religious Activities; Grantmaking; Advocacy; and Providing Dry-Cleaning & Laundry Services, Personal Care Services, Death Care Services, Pet Care Services, Photofinishing Services, Temporary Parking Services, and Dating Services). The data are weighted based on each industry's contribution to GDP. According to BEA estimates (the average of the fourth quarter 2023 GDP estimate and the GDP estimates for first, second, and third guarter 2024, as released on December 19, 2024), the six largest services sectors are: Real Estate, Rental & Leasing: Public Administration; Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services; Health Care & Social Assistance: Information: and Finance & Insurance.

Survey responses reflect the change, if any, in the current month compared to the previous month. Responses are raw data and are never changed. The diffusion index includes the percent of positive responses plus one-half of those responding the same (considered positive).

The resulting single index number for those meeting the criteria for seasonal adjustments (for Manufacturing: New Orders, Production, Employment, and Inventories) (for Services: Business Activity, New Orders, Employment and Prices) is then seasonally adjusted to allow for the effects of repetitive intra-year variations resulting primarily from normal differences in weather conditions, various institutional arrangements, and differences attributable to non-moveable holidays. The remaining indexes have not indicated significant seasonality. All seasonal adjustment factors are subject annually to relatively minor changes when conditions warrant them.

The Manufacturing PMI® is a composite index based on the diffusion indexes of five of the indexes with equal weights: New Orders (seasonally adjusted), Production (seasonally adjusted), Employment (seasonally adjusted), Supplier Deliveries, and Inventories (seasonally adjusted). The Services PMI® is a composite index based on the diffusion indexes for four of the indicators with equal weights: Business Activity (seasonally adjusted), New Orders (seasonally adjusted), Employment (seasonally adjusted) and Supplier Deliveries.

Diffusion indexes have the properties of leading indicators and are convenient summary measures showing the prevailing direction of change and the scope of change.

A Manufacturing PMI® reading above 50 percent indicates that the manufacturing economy is generally expanding; below 50 percent indicates that it is generally declining. A Manufacturing PMI® above 42.3 percent, over a period of time, indicates that the overall economy, or gross domestic product (GDP), is generally expanding; below 42.3 percent, it is generally declining.

The distance from 50 percent or 42.3 percent is indicative of the extent of the expansion or decline. A Services PMI® reading above 50 percent indicates that the services economy is generally expanding; below 50 percent indicates that it is generally declining. A Services PMI® above 48.6 percent, over time, indicates that the overall economy, or gross domestic product (GDP), is generally expanding; below 48.6 percent, it is generally declining. The distance from 50 percent or 48.6 percent is indicative of the strength of the expansion or decline. With some of the indicators within the Manufacturing ISM® Report On Business®, ISM® has indicated the departure point between expansion and decline of comparable government series, as determined by regression analysis.

The Report On Business® surveys are sent out to Manufacturing and Services Business Survey Panel respondents the first part of each month. Respondents are asked to report on information for the current month for U.S. operations only. ISM® receives survey responses throughout most of any given month, with the majority of respondents generally waiting until late in the month to submit responses to give the most accurate picture of current business activity.

The industries reporting growth, as indicated in the monthly reports, are listed in the order of most growth to least growth. For the industries reporting contraction or decreases, those are listed in the order of the highest level of contraction/decrease to the least level of contraction/decrease.

ISM ROB Content

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Institute for Supply Management® (ISM®) is the first and leading not-for-profit professional supply management organization worldwide. Its community of more than 50,000 in more than 100 countries around the world manage about US\$1 trillion in corporate and government supply chain procurement annually. Founded in 1915 by practitioners, ISM is committed to advancing the strategy and practice of integrated, end-to-end supply chain management through leading edge data-driven resources, community, and education to empower individuals, create organizational value and to drive competitive advantage. ISM's vision is to foster a prosperous, sustainable world. ISM empowers and leads the profession through the ISM® Report On Business®, its highly-regarded certification and training programs, corporate services, events and assessments. The ISM® Report On Business®, Manufacturing, Services, and Hospital are three of the most reliable economic indicators available, providing guidance to supply management professionals, economists, analysts, and government and business leaders. For more information, please visit: www.ismworld.org.